



UCTE LIFE

EDITORIAL

UCTE appoints Mr. Matthias Luther as Project Manager for the feasibility study on the synchronous interconnection of the IPS/UPS with UCTE

On 25 March 2004, UCTE Steering Committee took a major decision concerning the requested synchronous interconnection with UCTE. Following the release of the conclusions of a preliminary load-flow study in May, UCTE directing bodies decided to launch an extended UCTE feasibility study on the issue.

The study shall be performed by a Consortium of TSO on behalf of UCTE consisting of:

- a Project Manager working with a Project Management Board and reporting to the UCTE Steering Committee and EU;
- task leaders from UCTE;
- project teams composed of UCTE and UPS/IPS experts;
- A project Representative Board.

Mr. Matthias Luther (Head of Network Planning Department in E.ON Netz) was appointed as Project Manager (PM) with the main tasks to finalize and negotiate with EC the funding contracts, finalize the necessary agreements with the involved companies of CIS/Baltics, to setup the Consortium agreement, to organize the project by defining tasks, task leaders and schedules and to decide about software, data formats, deliverables and methodologies.

**UCTE enlarges via a new web-based tool its consultation process on the UCTE Operation Handbook.**

UCTE is pleased to announce the launching of its web-based consultation process on developing Operation Handbook.

For the time being, a number of documents define UCTE rules for operation of the interconnected system and its interfaces with neighbouring transmission systems. Supported by the European Commission and other stakeholders, UCTE has initiated the process of developing an Operation Handbook - a document summarising and updating all existing technical operating rules and recommendations. Currently, Policies 1, 2 and 3 have been posted for comments that can be downloaded at http://www.ucte.org/ohb/cur_status.asp.

Consultation is a key element of this process since it will contribute to identify issues and proposals of common interest with takeholders, seeking ways to improve the quality of the Operation Handbook. The UCTE endeavours to ensure that all interested parties operating in the electricity sector express their views in this process.

The consultation process is open for any party with a legitimate interest in electric system reliability. Each party may now register its official representatives allowed to sending comments and suggestions. Those representatives will be electronically kept informed about crucial events in the consultation process.

MEMBER NEWS

UCTE AGENDA

UCTE STEERING COMMITTEES

May 12, 2004 in Hungary
 May 14, 2004 Statistical Workshop
 June 24, 2004 in Poland
 September 23, 2004 in Bosnia-Herzegovina
 November 25, 2004 in Bulgaria

UCTE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 13, 2004 in Hungary

COMMON WG MEETING

September 10, 2004 in Slovenia

PSE SA



On 15 January 2004, PSE SA hosted the top management of TSOs from the eastern region of UCTE: EON – Netz, VE-T, CEPS, a.s., MAVIR, SEPS and VerbundAPG. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the changing operational grid situation in the region, resulting mainly from the ongoing intense developments in electricity markets. The TSOs agreed to develop a co-ordinated approach to control cross-border flows.

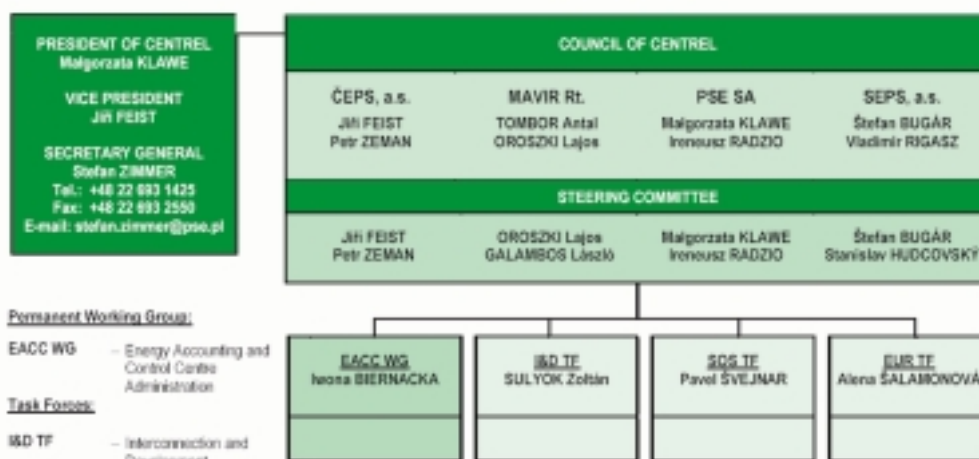
Participants in the meeting decided to set up the new ad-hoc group, based on the CENTREL "System Security Task Force" and including representatives from Austrian and two German TSOs. This group will investigate the reasons for specific operational situations in the second half of 2003, and prepare a catalogue of appropriate instruments to control power flows and to avoid critical situations in the future. CEPS, a.s. will lead this investigation to be concluded in May 2004.

CENTREL



The CENTREL Regional Group was established in 1992. Today, the members of the group are the following Transmission System Operators: CEPS, a.s., MAVIR Rt., PSE SA and SEPS, a.s., which are for the most part the legal successors to the CENTREL founders. All of them have been members of UCTE since the year 2001.

The presidency of CENTREL for the years 2003–2004 went to PSE SA. The main goal to be achieved during this presidency is to focus on the activities important for the region and to improve CENTREL activities in the new external conditions.



Following the new challenges described in the Charter of CENTREL 2003, the CENTREL Steering Committee decided to implement the new organisation of work within the group. The new structure consists of one permanent group and three task forces (see chart) that will support CENTREL companies in fulfilling their tasks like assuring the technical reliability of the block, the quality of electric power supply, non-discriminatory access to and use of their power systems, and creation of a technical platform for the exchange of all necessary data and information using the opportunities resulting from new tools. CENTREL started its activity with the new organisation on 1st January 2004.

MEMBER NEWS

VERBUND APG



Centralized Remote Control in APG

APG's remote control concept comprises the centralized remote control of all the APG substations – including the switching stations for power plants assigned to the grid – and the discontinuation of the shift manning system in the individual stations. Implementation of the centralized remote control system (CRCS) was initiated in 1995 and completed at the end of 2003.

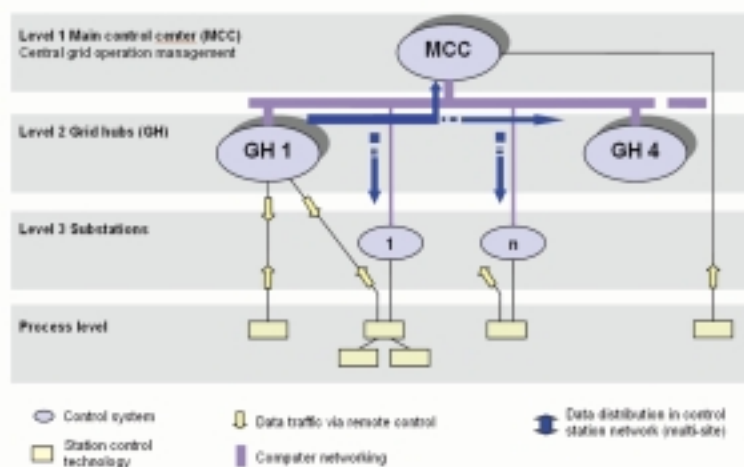
Alongside operative implementation, the development and formulation of a new operative management concept and corresponding training of the system and grid operators was required in order to realize the concept. This training included practical exercises on a special switching simulator as well as the theoretical principles. A certificate of proficiency was awarded to the dispatchers upon conclusion of the course.

Since the completion of CRCS on 9 December 2003, the operational management of the entire APG high voltage grid has been carried out centrally from the main control center at Vienna-Southeast. Around the clock manning is now only used in the control room of the central grid management; manning of the control rooms in the plants was discontinued in the course of the realization of remote control.

The technical concept for the realization of the CRCS is based on the connection of previously independent control systems in the individual stations to create a single system, the "control station network". The control station network rests on the networking of computers using WAN and the deployment of a software function developed for centralization. The control stations thus connected communicate with each other, and data which previously only existed at a local level can be made available to the whole system. The concept is designed so that each grid control station can work autonomously.

For the exchange of data with national and international grid partners, the construction of an electronic highway was realized on the CRCS. All data interfaces are secured via a firewall as standard practice.

Control station network - data traffic



REN S.A.



Recent developments in the Portuguese Power System

The first generator (392 MW) of the "Ribatejo" NGCC Power Plant, 30 km north of Lisbon, erected after the liberalization of the market, took up industrial service last March 01st. Two generators (120 MW each) of the reservoir of the dam of "Alqueva" were connected to the grid for commissioning purposes last December 08th, and last March 17th, respectively (they are scheduled to enter into industrial service soon). A new transformer 400/150 kV has been installed at the Palmela substation to secure energy consumption in the southern part of Greater Lisbon. Two new transformers 220/60 kV have been installed at the Trajouce and Vila Chã substations to adjust to the demand growth in both areas. The 400 kV Alto Lindoso-Cartelle line, prepared since its erection to be a double circuit line, has now received the second circuit, which is expected to enter into operation next March 25th. This circuit will be the third interconnection with Spain at this voltage level.



MEMBER NEWS

REE



RED ELÉCTRICA
DE ESPAÑA

The work to bury the San Sebastián de los Reyes-Loeches-Morata transmission line, which the Madrid-Barajas Airport enlargement had made necessary, has been completed by Red Eléctrica

Commissioning of the San Sebastián de los Reyes-Loeches-Morata 400kV buried line stretch owned by Red Eléctrica has been completed. Burying had become necessary due to the enlargement of the Madrid-Barajas airport. The buried line stretch is intended to prevent physical and electrical interference with the new airport runways operation.

The San Sebastián de los Reyes-Loeches-Morata high-voltage line was found to be incompatible with the two new runways operation. The metallic components, such as the towers and transmission cables located in the approach and take-off areas of the runways, could generate radioelectric interferences to the air navigation aid systems.

The 12.7 km long high-voltage dual circuit line is buried in an accessible and vented gallery built in a record time of 18 months, since about 24 to 30 months would have been usually required. As over 10 km of the buried stretch are affected by the new runways, both Red Eléctrica and AENA had to jointly follow-up the work to clear out any technical questions related to the layout and time schedule implementation.

The almost 80 million Euros budgeted by Red Eléctrica for the mentioned work have been funded at 100% by AENA, through a Cooperation Agreement signed by that Agency and Red Eléctrica. The new line is linked to the overall grid through two air-underground transformer stations, and the electricity transmission capacity is similar to that of the overhead line stretch which exceeds 3,200 MW, with both circuits in parallel. That value is equivalent to the power output from three NPPs.

This is a singular project in Spain and one of the most remarkable in Europe, and highlights clearly Red Eléctrica's technical expertise, as projects of similar characteristics can be found only in Copenhagen and Berlin.



Environmental improvements

A great deal of effort has been devoted by Red Eléctrica to ensure that the environmental impact arising from projects of this type is kept to a minimum. Of the actions carried out, the following are worth mentioning in particular:

- Efforts to minimise any possible impact on the Jarama River. With a view to minimising the impact of works on the Jarama river, which has been proposed as a Community Significant Location (CSL), it was decided to construct a tunnel for crossing the river. This prevented the riverbed from being affected by the works.
- Archaeological prospections of the planned underground stretch had to be carried out as the works traversed an area of significant archaeological potential. Prospection implied digging six archaeological sites which the new facility design could not skip. All the recovered objects and remains have been sent to different institutions for examination and cataloguing. Some objects have been added to the Regional Archaeological Museum collections.
- Land restoration. Both the morphology and edaphic make-up of the land affected by the mentioned work have been restored to their original condition. Topsoil from the areas affected by the work was removed and stockpiled. In this way, once the original morphology has been restored, that topsoil can be spread again over those areas for easier natural revegetation.

UCTE NEWSGRID - N.7

Quarterly Newsletter from Union for the Co-ordination of Transmission of Electricity (UCTE)

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